

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-13 and 15-19 were pending in the application and the Examiner rejected claims 1-10, 13, 15 and 19. By this amendment claims 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13 and 16-18 have been amended and claims 1, 9, 10, 15 and 19 have been cancelled. Thus, claims 2-8, 11-13 and 16-18 are pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

Rejection under 35 U. S. C. § 112

In items 2-5 on page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner rejects claims 2-13 and 16-19 under 35 U. S. C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite for failing to point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicant regards as the invention.

By this amendment, independent claims 11 and 16 have been amended to provide appropriate antecedent basis for the recited feedback recitations. Therefore, it is submitted that the claims as amended meet the requirements of 35 U.S. C. 112.

Allowable Subject Matter

In items 17-20 on pages 4 and 5 of the Office Action the Examiner indicated that claims 11-12 and 16-18 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. By this amendment objectionable claims 11 and 16 have been rewritten in independent form and have also been amended to overcome the above-identified rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112. Therefore, it is submitted that independent claims 11 and 16 are in condition for allowance.

The remaining claims (i.e. claims 2-8, 12-13 and 17-18) depend directly or indirectly from claim 11 or claim 16 and include all the features of the claim from which they depend, plus additional features which are not taught or suggested by the prior art. Therefore, it is submitted that these claims also patentably distinguish over the prior art.

Summary

It is submitted that all claims remaining in the application are in a condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the claims and an early Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

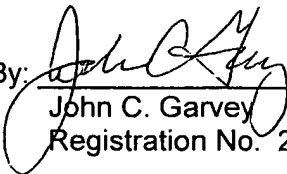
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 5-4-09

By: 
John C. Garvey
Registration No. 28, 607

1201 New York Avenue, N.W., 7th Floor
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501